AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

7. (Previously amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an inhibitor compound which is capable of blocking the interaction of phosphorylase a with the glycogen - targeting subunit (G_L) of protein phosphatase 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable exipient or carrier wherein the inhibitor compound comprises a polypeptide having SEQ ID. NO: 1 or a fragment thereof which is capable of binding phosphorylase a.

8. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the polypeptide consists of a ~~truncated version~~ fragment of the glycogen-targeting subunit of protein phosphatase 1.

9. (Currently amended) A method of identifying an inhibitor compound which is capable of blocking the interaction of phosphorylase a with the glycogen-targeting subunit of protein phosphatase 1 comprising;

providing a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID. NO: 1 or fragment ~~or variant~~ thereof which binds phosphorylase a;

providing a test compound; and

comparing the binding of the polypeptide by phosphorylase a in the presence and absence of the test compound; an inhibitor being identified by reduced binding of the polypeptide in the presence of the test compound.

10. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the phosphorylase a is labelled;

the polypeptide is immobilised on a supprt; and

the binding of phosphorylase a to the polypeptide is determined by measuring the amount of label bound to the support.

11. (Previously amended) A method as claimed in Claim 10 wherein phosphorylase a is labelled with a label selected from digoxigenin, ^{32}P or ^{33}P.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously amended) A method of reducing the blood glucose level of a mammalian animal comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound which is capable of blocking the interaction of phosphorylase a with the glycogen-targeting subunit G_L of protein phosphatase 1, wherein the compound comprises SEQ ID. NO: 1 or a fragment thereof.

14. (Original) A method as claimed in Claim 13 wherein the mammalian animal is a human.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 18, wherein the compound is administered to a subject having a disorder associated with higher than normal blood glucose levels.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16 wherein the disorder is selected from type I or type II diabetes.

18. (Previously amended) A method of blocking the interaction of phosphorylase *a* with the glycogen-targeting subunit (G_1) of protein phosphatase 1 comprising:

contacting phosphorylase *a* with a compound in an amount effective to block the interaction of the phosphorylase *a* with the glycogen-targeting subunit (G_1) of protein phosphatase 1 wherein the compound is a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or a fragment thereof which is capable of binding phosphorylase *a*.

19. (Previously added) The method according to claim 18 wherein the polypeptide increases the activity of hepatic glycogen synthase.

20. (Previously added) A compound which is capable of blocking the interaction of phosphorylase *a* with the glycogen - targeting subunit (G_1) of protein phosphatase 1, wherein the compound comprises a polypeptide having SEQ ID. NO: 1 or a fragment thereof which is capable of binding phosphorylase *a*.